

# COAL AND ASH HANDLING PLANT

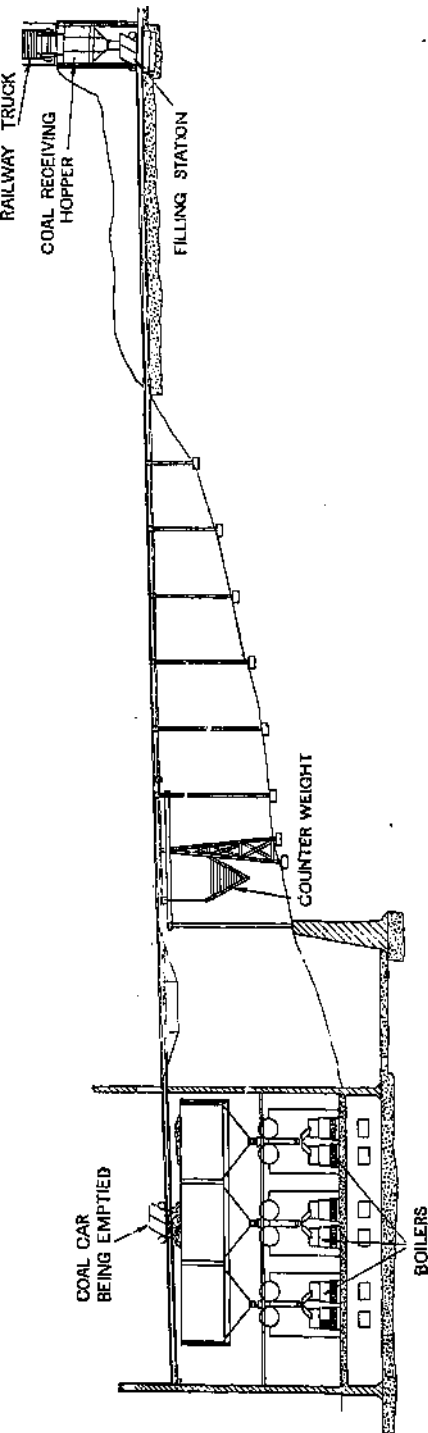


Fig. 1.—Diagrammatic Arrangement of Babcock & Wilcox Automatic Railway

**GENERAL METHODS**

**By Sidings Direct to Coal**

**Bunkers.**—In certain cases it will be found that the layout of the power station plant, and the natural formation and level of the ground on which it stands in relation to the adjacent railway sidings, render it possible to provide an elevated railway siding leading to the coal storage bunkers situated over the boilers in the boiler house. This arrangement enables the coal trucks to be shunted directly over the bunkers and emptied therein without the provision of any special coal handling plant. This scheme is probably the cheapest and most convenient arrangement to adopt, as the amount of plant to be maintained in efficient working order is reduced to a minimum. All that is required is an overhead siding, over which a shunting locomotive can handle the coal trucks direct from the railway company's sidings. The overhead siding may also be used for depositing coal on the ground below for storage purposes. The coal, after being emptied out of the trucks on to the storage space, can be stacked by means of a jib crane and grab over a relatively large area on each side of the overhead siding, thereby permitting a considerable amount of coal to be stored in readiness for emergencies, such as a failure of the coal supply by rail due to accident, strikes, &c. The crane which is used to distribute the coal on the storage space can also be used to reclaim the coal and load it into trucks for shunting on to the bunkers over the boilers.